

What is claimed is:

1. A medication management system, for use with an electronic network having one or more access nodes, the medication management
5 system comprising:

a medication management unit adapted for electronic communication with the electronic network, the medication management unit having a processing unit and a storage medium coupled to the processing unit;

10 a medical device adapted for electronic communication with the electronic network and the medication management unit through use of one of the access nodes, the medical device having a processor and a memory coupled to the processor;

15 wherein at least one of the medical device memory and the medication management unit storage medium contains programming code to determine the physical location of a medical device based on which one of the access nodes was last used by the medical device and to report the last used access node to the medication management unit;

20 a user access device adapted for electronic communication with the medication management unit, the user access device displays the physical location of a medical device base on the report from the medication management unit; and

25 wherein the medical device has program code to activate an audio location alarm in response to an alarm request from the user access device relayed through the medication management unit to allow a user to pinpoint the physical location of the medical device.

2. The system of claim 1, wherein the user access device requests

a report of the physical location of a medical device from the medication management unit.

3. The system of claim 2, wherein the medication management unit contains the programming code and provides the report of the last
5 used access node when the medication management unit receives a request for a report of the physical location from the user access device.

4. The system of claim 2, wherein the medical device contains the programming code and reports the last used access node to the
10 medication management unit when the medical device receives a request for a report of the last used access node from the medication management unit.

5. The system of claim 1, wherein the medical device contains the programming code and periodically determines the last used access
15 node.

6. The system of claim 5, wherein the medical device contains the programming code and periodically reports the last used access node to the medication management unit.

7. The system of claim 1, wherein the medication management unit
20 contains the programming code and periodically determines the physical location of the medical device based on the last access node used by the medical device.

8. The system of claim 1, wherein the medication management unit contains the programming code and periodically reports the
25 physical location of the medical device to the user access device.

9. The system of claim 1, wherein the user access device is remotely located from the medication management unit.

10. The system of claim 9, wherein the user access device comprises a computer located in a biomedical technician area.

11. The system of claim 1, wherein the user access device comprises a PDA.

12. A method for tracking a medical device connectable with an electronic network having one or more access nodes, comprising:

5 determining the last access node used by a medical device and
 reporting the last used access node to a medication management
 unit;

 determining the physical location of a medical device based on the
 last access node used by the medical device as reported at
10 the medication management unit; and

 displaying the physical location of a medical device at a user
 access device, based on a report from the medication
 management unit; and

 activating an audio location alarm in response to an alarm request
15 from the user access device relayed through the medication
 management unit to allow a user to pinpoint the physical
 location of the medical device.

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